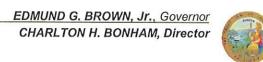


State of California - Natural Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE Inland Deserts Region 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220 Ontario, CA 91764 (909) 484-0459 www.wildlife.ca.gov



July 5, 2013

Ms. Lauri Kemper Assistant Executive Officer Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board 2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Subject:

Draft Cleanup and Abatement Order, WDID No. 6B36C363433

Dear Ms. Kemper:

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO), Arimol Group Inc. and Meadowbrook Cedar, Inc., Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County, WDID No. 6B36C363433. The Department is responding to the Draft CAO as a Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources (California Fish and Game Code Sections 711.7 and 1802, and the California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines Section 15386), and as a Responsible Agency regarding any discretionary actions (CEQA Guidelines Section 15381), such as the issuance of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 *et seq.*) and/or a California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Permit for Incidental Take of Endangered, Threatened, and/or Candidate species (California Fish and Game Code Sections 2080 and 2080.1).

The Department has the following recommendations regarding the CAO:

- Regarding Order 5, Restoration Plan (c)(i): revegetation plan: the Department requests that the CAO request a list of <u>local California</u> native plant species to reestablish the vegetation that has been removed. The Department further requests that these local California native plant species be locally sourced, where possible.
- Regarding Order 6. The Department requests that the qualified restoration consultant have a minimum of five (5) years' experience with restoration of wetlands and surface water resources in fragile, montane environments in southern California, such as those that were present at the three parcels prior to development activities.

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If you have any questions pertaining to these recommendations, please feel free to contact Joanna Gibson at <u>Joanna.Gibson@wildlife.ca.gov</u> or (909) 987-7449.

Sincerely,

Jeff Brandt Senior Environmental Scientist

Joanna Jul